GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:777
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2000
PUBLIC DEBATE ON MANAGEMENT OF AIRPORTS BY FOREIGN AGENCIES .
TARIT BARAN TOPDAR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are likely to go for a public debate before deciding in favour of foreign investment and management of country`s airports because most of the airports are also being used by the country`s Air Force and such decision may endanger country`s security;

(b) if so, whether the Government are likely to announce the date and place of such public debates; and

(c) if so, the manner in which the Government have planned to safeguard the national security in case the airports are given to foreign agencies for management?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b) & (c):- At present, only the four airports belonging to Airports Authority of India (AAI) at Delhi, Mumbai,Chennai and Calcutta are being taken up for restructuring through long term lease and none of the Civil Enclaves at Defence airports are being considered for leasing. The security at these airports will remain with the Government. Their utilisation by Defence Forces andin case of national calamities will be ensured while undertaking long term leasing exercise.